

Transfiguration of Our Lord CHRIST OUR REDEEMER

Pastor Mark Voss

February 3, 2008

A Glorious Day in God's House

Prayer As We Gather In the past few Sundays we have seen a brief sketch of our Lord's three-year ministry of preaching, teaching and healing. Now his face is set toward Jerusalem and he leads us into the Lenten journey toward his cross. As Moses only glimpsed the Promised Land from afar, on the Mount of Transfiguration we are given a brief glimpse of Jesus' glory. It is on Mount Calvary, however, that his true glory is seen. We are reminded that we share Jesus' glory now by baptism into his death and resurrection. The final glory is assured by Moses, Elijah, Jesus, Peter, James, and John, that we shall rise and live forever in the glory of heaven.

Opening Hymn

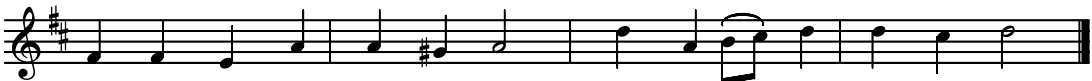
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Je - sus, take us to the moun-tain, where, with Pe - ter, James and John,
 What do You want us to see there, that Your close com - pan - ions saw?
 What do You want us to hear there, that Your dear dis - ci - ples heard?
 Take us to that oth - er moun-tain where we see You glor - i - fied,
 We who have be - held Your glor - y, ris - en and as - cend - ed Lord,



we are daz-zled by Your glo - ry, light as blind-ing as the sun.
 Your di - vin - i - ty re - vealed there fills us with the self - same awe.
 Once a - gain the Voice from heav - en says of the In - car - nate Word:
 where You shout - ed "It is fin - ished!" where for all the world You died.
 can - not help but tell the sto - ry, all that we have seen and heard;



There pre - pare us for the night by the vi - sion of that sight.
 Clothed in flesh like ours You go matched to meet our dead - liest Foe.
 "Lis - ten, lis - ten, ev - ery - one, This is My be - lov - ed Son!"
 Hear the stunned cen - tur - i - on: "Tru - ly this was God's own Son!"
 say with Pe - ter, James, and John; "You are God's be - lov - ed Son!"

Invocation and Opening Verses

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble!

C: Holy is he!

P: Moses and Aaron were among his priests,

C: They called the LORD, and he answered them.

P: O LORD our God, you answered them;

C: you were a forgiving God to them.

Psalm 99:1, 3b, 6a, c, 8a

Confession and Absolution

P: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C: O God, our Father, we confess to you all our sins, our slowness to learn of Christ, our failure to follow him, our reluctance to bear the cross. Forgive us the poverty of our worship, our neglect of fellowship and of the means of grace, and our hesitating witness for Christ. Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love. Forgive us and renew us that we may have the strength of faith to take up our cross and follow Christ, our glorious Lord. Amen.

P: For Jesus' sake, Almighty God in his mercy forgives you all your sins. As a called servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise –“Oh, Wondrous Type! Oh, Vision Fair”

Text CW96 Melody CW582

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**Oh, wondrous type! Oh, vision fair Of glory that the Church may share,
Which Christ upon the mountain shows, Where brighter than the sun he glows!**

**With Moses and Elijah nigh Th' incarnate Lord holds converse high,
And from the cloud the Holy One Bears record to the only Son.**

Collect

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. O God, in the glorious transfiguration of your beloved Son, you confirmed the mysteries of our faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice that came from the bright cloud you wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King of Glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Old Testament Lesson – “An Incredible Look at God” – Exodus 24:12, 15-18 ¹²The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and commands I have written for their instruction." ¹⁵When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it, ¹⁶and the glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the LORD called to Moses from within the cloud. ¹⁷To the Israelites the glory of the LORD looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain. ¹⁸Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

Verse of the Day (Sing)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
These words are written that we may believe
That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel Lesson – “The Climb Up – The Climb Down” – Matthew 17:1-9 ¹After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ²There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. ³Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. ⁴Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters--one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁵While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." ⁸When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus. ⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."



Sermon Hymn – CW369

“Beautiful Savior”

Sermon

“ON THE SCENE AT THE TRANSFIGURATION” 2 Peter 1:16-21

¹⁶We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain. ¹⁹And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. ²¹For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.



Confession of Faith (Martin Luther's Explanation to the Second Article)

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.

Offering and Prayers

Lord's Supper *The Bible teaches that receiving the Lord's Supper together is a public statement of our unity and agreement in the faith. If you are a visitor and have not communed with us before, we ask that you speak with our pastor outside the service before communing. It is our hope that we can share with you our beliefs from the Bible about our Savior and this Sacrament. Thank you.*

Preface

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

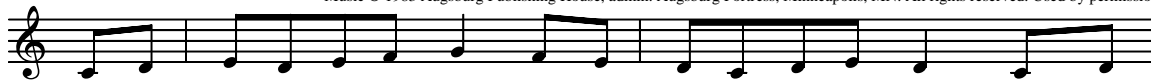
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who at his transfiguration revealed his glory to his disciples that they might be strengthened to proclaim his cross and resurrection and with all the faith

Sing

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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of Sa - ba - oth, a - dored; Heav'n and



earth with full ac-claimshout the glo-ry of Your name. Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-



- san-na to the Lord; Tru-ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Lord's Prayer Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

**Questions for Self Examination
Before Lord's Supper**

- 1. What is present?
- 2. What is offered?
- 3. Am I truly sorry for my sins?
- 4. Will I, with the Holy Spirit's help, change my sinful life?



Words of Institution and Peace of the Lord

Distribution Hymn – “How Good Lord, to Be Here”

CW95

Prayer of Thanksgiving

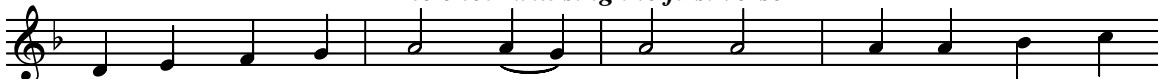
Benediction

Farewell to Alleluia

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P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, when we next gather for worship, it will be Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. On that day we will begin our solemn journey to the Savior's cross. While the joy of faith remains undiminished throughout the year, our rejoicing during Lent is muted and quiet. For centuries, therefore, the Christian church has omitted their most jubilant songs during this season, including the word alleluia which means, "Praise the Lord." Now for a time we say farewell to alleluia. We do this to prepare ourselves for the quieter days of Lent. The alleluias will return on Easter dawn as we gather to shout our praise to the risen Lord.

The choir will sing the first verse



Al - le - lu - ia, song of tri - umph, sound of joy that
Al - le - lu - ia we are sing - ing, voic - ing hymns in
Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while
May our hymns be filled with long - ing hear us, Ho - ly



can - not die; al - le - lu - ia is the an - them
pure ac - cord, With Christ's ho - ly church u - nit - ed,
here be - low; Al - le - lu - ia our trans - gress - ions
Trin - i - ty As we look to your blest East - er,



ev - er dear to choirs on high; Saints a - domed in robes of
jus - ti - fied, re - deemed, re - stored, and with all his faith - ful
make us for a while fore - go. For the sol - emn time is
here, and then e - ter - nal - ly, When we shall once more be



glo - ry join the great an - gel - ic choir.
peo - ple raise our song to praise the Lord.
com - ing when our tears for sin must flow.
sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly!